

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The final Office Action of January 11, 2005 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1, 3, 6-8, 11, 15, 19, 24, 28, 32, and 35 are hereby amended and claims 2 and 4 are hereby canceled. Accordingly, claims 1, 3, and 5-38 are currently pending. Entry of the claim amendments is respectfully requested. Specifically, the amendment to claim 1 incorporates subject matter found within claims 2 and 4 and amendments to claims 8, 15, and 19 correct minor typographical errors. Therefore, Applicants submit that the present amendment does not introduce new issues requiring further consideration and/or search and, for reasons discussed below, places the application in immediate condition for allowance.

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 8-38.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okuyama et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 6,556,176) in view of Iida (U.S. Patent No. 6,052,074). This rejection is respectfully traversed and reconsideration is requested.

Rejecting the subject matter of claim 2, now incorporated within claim 1, the Examiner acknowledges that Okuyama et al. fails to illustrate “the ‘one or more channels’ being ‘R/G/B channels’.” Attempting to cure this deficiency, the Examiner cites Iida as allegedly teaching “a multi-channel D/A converter which provides ‘R/G/B channels’ (Abstract, figure 1, DR, DG, DB, AR, AG, AB)” and which includes “a reference current output unit for outputting the reference current (SEE Iida figure 1 Tr1 1, Tr12 … Tr1n), and a sink current controller for controlling a level of a sink current according to each R/G/B channel by receiving the reference current from the reference current output unit (SEE Iida figure 1 SW1 1, SW12, … SW1n and AR).” However, rejecting the subject matter of claim 4, also now incorporated within claim 1, the Examiner asserts that the “reference current output unit temporarily combines a plurality of reference current sources of a plurality of switching devices to output the reference current (SEE Okuyama et al. item 3).” Applicants respectfully disagree and submit that Okuyama et al. in view of Iida fails to teach or suggest each and every element as presently recited in claim 1.

Specifically, "item 3" of Okuyama et al. is a data line (see Okuyama et al., column 4, line 7). Applicants respectfully submit that a data line is not equivalent to either the reference current output unit as presently recited in claim 1 or as allegedly disclosed in Iida. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that Iida fails to teach or suggest wherein the reference current output unit Tr11, Tr12, etc., "temporarily combines a plurality of reference current sources of a plurality of switching devices to output the reference current" as presently recited in claim 1. For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicants respectfully submit that a *prima facie* case of obviousness for the subject matter presently recited in claim 1 has not been established because neither Okuyama et al. nor Iida, taken singly or in combination, teach or suggest each and every element as presently recited in claim 1. Consequently, Applicants request withdrawal of the present rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a).

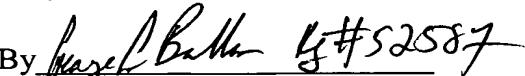
Applicants believe the foregoing remarks place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Dated: April 11, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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